



# Early Ashland pioneers set stage for progressive values

BY VICTORIA LAW

Nestled tightly in the arms of the Siskiyou Mountains, Ashland, Oregon sparkles on those clear autumn and spring mornings where the sun hits the dew drops just right. The drive on Interstate 5 at those times can be arresting as the little town in the mountain glows against its green backdrop. It is no surprise to the people who love this town that across time Ashland has always been special.

At the narrow end of the Bear-Creek Valley, Ashland is only one-and two-thirds miles wide and four-and-a-half miles long but the diversity and beauty of the region belies the small size. The Siskiyou Mountains with heights of over 7500 feet were created from an ancient island chain in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. At that time Ashland



A view towards Ashland's Downtown Plaza from the entrance of Lithia Park circa 1920's and today

was the beach on this ancient wandering island, facing east towards the Pacific Coast. When the island chain collided and was swept under the Pacific Coast, great mountains were extruded from deep within the earth to form the Siskiyou Mountain Range.

Water cascaded down the new mountains carving river valleys and creating fertile soils from eroded mountain tops. Forests

of fir and oak grew tall in the rich soil and shaded streams full of salmon and steelhead. Deer, elk, and beaver were plentiful. The first peoples arrived in the Ashland area at least 15,000 years ago. In this rich valley full of game, fish, fruit and acorns they made their imprint, dancing the great "White Deer Dance" and managing the landscape with the controlled use of fire. The Takelma and Shasta Indians still

lived and flourished in this valley when the first Europeans arrived.

The first Anglo-European settlers in Ashland were a different sort of pioneer from those that settled the rest of southern Oregon. Most of the Ashland settlers came from farm families in the Midwest. They had tried their hand at gold-mining in California but decided they

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# Oregon Senator leads challenge to NSA surveillance

BY JASON HOUK

Oregon senator Ron Wyden is leading a group of 26 fellow senators — 22 Democrats, three Republicans and one Independent — in demanding answers from Director of National Intelligence James Clapper about the National Security Agency's surveillance programs.

Wyden, who sits on the Senate Intelligence Committee, has criticized the agency's surveillance programs following the leaks by agency contractor Edward Snowden detailing how personal data is captured via phone and internet traffic.

Wyden and others argue that Clapper misled Congress when asked earlier this year if the NSA was collecting data on millions of Americans.

Clapper replied, "No, sir... not wittingly."

Senator Wyden has said that Clapper didn't give a "straight answer."

The senators sent a letter to Clapper that includes a series of questions about the scope and focus of the National Security Agency's bulk collection of data authorized by the PATRIOT Act.

Oregon senator Jeff Merkley also signed the letter. that asks Clapper to provide more public details about the extent of the program and examples of when it "proved useful" in stopping terrorist attacks.

"We are concerned that by depending on secret interpretations of the PATRIOT Act that differed from an intuitive reading of the statute, this program essentially relied for years on a secret body of law," the senators wrote in the letter. "This and misleading statements by Intelligence officials have prevented our constituents from evaluating the decisions that their government was making, and will unfortunately undermine trust in government more broadly. The debate that the President has now welcomed is an important first step toward restoring that trust."

They note that the Supreme Court decision the government is relying on to authorize massive data collection (Smith v. Maryland) was "based on the technology of the rotary-dial era

# Five years without answers: The unsolved murders of Dave Lewis and Troy Carney

BY VANESSA HOUK

Two men were killed sometime in the early hours before dawn on September 4, 2008 within a thirty-five mile radius in Jackson County. Nearly five years later, both murders remain unsolved and the families of Dave Lewis and Troy Carney are connected in a way that words can't reach as both families have had to find a way to keep going without any resolution, despite their grief and pain.

It's been five years without closure, but the answers are out there somewhere.

Forty-six year old Dave Lewis lived in a cabin on the summit of Dead Indian Memorial Road just on the outskirts of Ashland. Photos taken before his murder, captured a man who seemed quick to smile and his obituary noted he was, "intense and unforgettable, a rascal and a live wire." Dave loved fishing and spending time with his sons.

The first call came in shortly after 2:30 AM on September 4 when a passerby reported a fire on Dead Indian Memorial Road. Fire crews were dispatched and before they were finished cleaning up the site of a burnt vacation home, a second call came in, alerting officials to



Dave Lewis

another fire about five miles up the road. By the time the fire crews arrived at the scene, Dave Lewis' home was burnt to the ground and within the charred rubble, the crew discovered the body of this father of three and friend to many. Photos from the crime scene show tall, jagged, burned columns against ash and yellow crime scene tape flapping in the breeze.

Later the sheriff's office would speculate that Lewis' killer crept quietly up the mountain road to his cabin, used accelerant to ignite the fire and then slipped away into the dark shadows of the wilderness before being discovered. Investigators found Lewis was killed before the fire was started and it is not

clear whether he was killed inside his home or at a separate location. While fire erases clues from a crime scene, it does not erase memories for those who bear witness and investigators know that there were traces and clues left behind.



Troy Carney

In his mid-forties, Troy Carney was by all accounts an adventurer. "He was a free spirit," his mom, Linda Wood said in an email. "He enjoyed the adventures that life had to offer." Carney traveled the country, often finding day laborer work at truck stops, loading and unloading cargo. He was between jobs, so after spending time with old friends in Medford, Carney telephoned his mom to update

her on his plans. He was [going to] "camp out while waiting to get more work on another truck," she said. That was the last time his mother heard his voice.

Before his death, the last time anyone remembers seeing Carney was on September 1 when a surveillance tape at the Pilot Truck Stop caught him walking away from the building. The Pilot was a place he'd been showing up regularly to eat, use the phones and earn a few dollars doing quick, odd jobs for the truckers. Described as a "likable guy", Carney was quick to help others. His mother stated, "Troy was killed by someone he had met just a couple days before, someone he trusted as a friend and it has to be someone that was camped very near to him cause he would never tell anyone where he was camped, said it was safer that way. That person knew he was supposed to leave town that next morning and he would not have left without saying goodbye to a friend."

Carney was camping along the edge of the Bear Creek Greenway, a normally tranquil path that follows the creek for a 17 mile stretch from Ashland to Central Point. It is a place that

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# Editorials & Opinion

## Letter from the editor

Dear Readers,

A year ago we were publishing as the Ashland Free Press and I remember handing out copies of our July issue along the parade route with the hot sun barreling down and the gleeful sounds of children around us. As I passed along a copy to one man, he asked me how we were managing to publish with so few advertisers. My answer was something like, “between the support of friends and great businesses (back then A Street Print & Parcel was critical—without Steve and Whitney’s support and the use of their machines, we wouldn’t have been able to get started), along with what amounts to a lot of volunteer labor, we squeak by.” It’s been a pretty incredible year as we’ve expanded our publication and morphed into the Rogue Valley Community Press. As you can see, we’ve picked up a quite a few advertisers and supporters. We’re still fueled by a lot of volunteer hours and grateful that we get to do what we love to do. Showcasing the good works of

our community non-profits is something that Jason and I are passionate about.

And as publications such as the Oregonian are cutting back, we’re gaining momentum. We need your help. In order to keep our advertisers, they have to hear that you appreciate their support of RVCP. Will you please reach out and tell them that you saw their ad in this month’s issue? If they have a coupon, please redeem it. Show them that you value the content RVCP provides. We’re not like any other publication in southern Oregon, in fact we are the only one that looks though the world with a social justice lens. We cover the stories behind the issues and the history of social change. As you can imagine, that is something that shifts out of some business owners comfort zones. If you like what you read, please support the paper and our advertisers and if you find something is missing then that’s just a sign that you need to get involved. We’re always looking to expand our subscribers, distribution and display advertising.

We would still like to build a

vendor program where homeless and/or low income people could sell copies of this publication. If you are interested in finding out more about that aspect of RVCP, please contact us. We’re looking to partner with a larger group or nonprofit who can help get that going.

In the meantime, we are still squeaking by. We’re excited to have some full color pages and we continue to expand a little bit at a time. We’re always looking for articles (500-800 words or more if you query first), artwork, poetry, events and community updates. Special consideration is given to letters to the Editor (500 words or less).

And we’re excited to announce a new partnership with Rogue Valley Community Television. On July 5, 2013, we will premiere a new program that will bring together local media producers. We’ll talk about the news and topics of the day with an emphasis on media. This will be a once a month production and will begin at 6:00 PM. So, don’t miss that!

Kindly,  
Vanessa Houk

## Awareness grows on GMOs

BY CATIE FARYL

There are dozens of groups actively seeking remedy for the planting of GMO crops in our state through peaceful, legal channels. The Chamber of Commons and Common Sense Sovereignty is addressing this and other areas of corporate overreach such as fracking, taxation, privacy, and takeover of water supplies. We are accomplishing this through education on how people can exercise their community rights.

In regard to the article about “economic sabotage” and destruction of a crop in Talent, reported in the June 21, 2013 Ashland Daily Tidings and Medford Mail Tribune, we question the bias of that story. More than 1000 people marched against Monsanto in Medford on May 25th, and our organization collected over 400 signatures in a couple hours that day to advise the federal government to rescind the Monsanto Protection Act.

There is growing public awareness about the multiple dangers of GMO crops, seeds, pollinators and foods. Our fellow citizens and many of our brave elected officials are working daily to diminish the proliferation of GMOs in Oregon and America.

There needs to be a reframing of this and similar issues. Chemical agriculture and GMO systems are losing their efficacy, and it would be best if these systems were abandoned in order to insure the health, safety and future of America. The biggest economic threat is the threat to export dollars since other countries are viewing with distaste, fear and suspicion the crops from Oregon and other states. And can there be anything more violent and inappropriate on a moral, physical, spiritual or economic level than using “gene guns” to aggressively shoot trans-species genes into food seeds, not to mention the huge die-off of bees and other sentient beings, the soil, water and air contaminated and damaged by the toxic chemicals needed to grow GMO seeds and crops?

How can we end this type of treatment by corporations like Syngenta, a Swiss company who cannot legally do their experiments and gmo seed testing in their home country? How can “We the People” unite and assert our community rights to reclaim self-governance and decision-making power for agriculture, energy, water, communications, taxation and in an array of areas being overtaken by big government in league with the “corporotocracy”?

## Ashland rate increases shortsighted

BY CHARLIE DELGADO

Recently the Ashland City Council voted to approve across-the-board rate increases for water and sewer. Starting July 1, the city will charge 10% more. They will vote later this year on a proposed 5.3% increase. The City Council sets the rates on electricity. What is not clear is the degree to which this is directly related to a rate increase by Bonneville Power, which supplies the City of Ashland with electricity.

The City of Ashland does generate some of its own power from Ashland Creek (Ashland Municipal Utility District) and they could provide solar and wind, but they need to create the infrastructure. They could issue a municipal revenue bond. They just passed their budget for the next two years: \$202 million, but that does not preclude them from issuing a municipal bond.

With money generated from a municipal bond, the city could build a wind farm. The bond could be designed so that the project pays for itself. Why couldn’t the City of Ashland be self-sustaining in electric power? Ashland owns plenty of property where electric power generating windmills could be installed. In addition, there is a huge amount of hydro-electric power already available. We’ve already have huge dams on the Columbia River.

Ashland city residents could demand that the City Council not raise electric utility rates for Ashland residents --especially not on the poor and the elderly! This is something the Jackson County Fuel Committee and Ashland City Council Member Carol Voisin have been fighting for. We need to make local government self-sustaining, demand electric power be generated locally --naturally.

Wind and solar are the natural solutions to electric power, especially for small- to medium-sized cities. Why can’t electric power be generated by local municipalities? The answer is, it can be. Especially in southern Oregon, where you never know which way the wind is going to blow, there is plenty of wind available, and most of it doesn’t come from politicians. It comes from nature! Why don’t we use it? The answer is, we can. Or at least we can check with the experts. Now is the time for concerned citizens to take control of their power and stop the revenues from going to the utility companies, for whom profit is their overriding concern.

There are pros and cons to wind energy, and solar is not viewed as efficient enough to

*“I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended.”*  
~ Nelson Mandela

### Your Social Justice News Resource

The Rogue Valley Community Press (RVCP) is a publication for the working class and a platform for marginalized voices in our community. Through RVCP, we aim to educate people about social justice issues and inspire them to create positive change. Published monthly, RVCP is available through subscription, local retail locations, and street vendors.

Contributions from the community are welcome, including articles, letters to the editor, short poetry, and photography. Send submissions to editor@rvcommunitypress.com. All writing accepted for publication will be edited with due respect for the author’s intent. Opinions expressed in RVCP are those of the authors, and not necessarily the editors.

RVCP is a proud member of the North American Street Newspaper Association (NASNA). Contributions to RVCP may be reprinted in other NASNA member publications.

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For businesses looking to reach a socially conscious audience, RVCP is perfect for advertising. To learn more, give us a call.

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#### Contact

**Rogue Valley Community Press**  
258 A Street #1  
Ashland, Oregon 97520

(541) 622-9483

editor@rvcommunitypress.com  
advertising@rvcommunitypress.com

#### Staff

**Jason Houk**  
*Publisher*

**Vanessa Houk**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

**Charlie Delgado**  
*Advertising Manager*

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Life

Rogue Valley community celebrates DOMA decision  
Oregon could be the first state to test the Supreme Court decision.

BY JASON HOUK

Over a hundred people braved the rain to gather in the Ashland plaza to celebrate a historic victory for marriage equality after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the Defense of Marriage Act and paved the way for same-sex marriages to resume in California.

In a 5-to-4 decision, the court ruled the Defense of Marriage Act — or DOMA — signed by President Clinton into law in 1996, is unconstitutional. Gay rights activists argued that the law effectively denied same-sex married couples the federal benefits that heterosexual couples enjoyed.

This means that legally married same-sex couples are entitled to claim the same federal benefits as heterosexual couples.

The Supreme Court also overruled California’s Proposition 8 ban on same-sex marriage, effectively giving the green light for same-sex weddings to proceed.

Chanting “Happy Death to DOMA Day” and waving rainbow flags and umbrellas, the crowd welcomed the decision and looked toward the future. “DOMA dead means our constitutional rights will be recognized,” said founder and president of Southern Oregon Pride, Gina DuQuenne.

Oregon senator Jeff Merkley called the decision “a huge stride forward for equality and fairness.”

While the ruling does not directly affect Oregon, the decision offers hope in the state where same-sex marriage has been banned since 2004. Oregon may soon vote on same-sex marriage. Basic Rights Oregon is organizing a statewide campaign to get a measure on the ballot next year to reverse the ban. Oregon could be the only state with such a measure in 2014 — putting the state in the national spotlight. The group needs to obtain more than 116,000 signatures to appear on next year’s ballot.

“The rulings of the highest



Reverend Dr, Anthony (“Father Tony”) Hutchinson shares his enthusiasim over SCOTUS decsions  
Photo by Jason Houk

court in the land offer support and hope for our efforts to achieve marriage equality in 2014,” explains Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek, the first openly lesbian lawmaker to lead a state legislative chamber.

“The reality is that the Supreme Court has moved forward the law in a tremendous way with these two cases decided yesterday, but it’s also moved forward the dialogue,” said Stuart Gaffney, media director of Marriage Equality USA.

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# Peace vigil remembers victims of nuclear bombings and disasters

BY VANESSA HOUK

Underneath a thousand brightly colored, folded paper cranes, there lies a story. It's a tale of terrible destruction and bright hope. It's also the history of what happens when ordinary people come together to model peace. Every August 6 through August 9, members of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), peace activists and community members gather in the Ashland Plaza to remember the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to share the dangers of nuclear weapons and the environmental hazards of radiation contamination. By 1945 World War II was peaking. After President Truman issued an executive order to bomb Japan, a series of events occurred which left lasting imprints on both Japanese and American culture. First, a nuclear bomb, nicknamed "Little Boy" was loaded onto the ship the Indianapolis and carried to the Tinian Islands in Marianas and Guam, south of Japan. Then on the early morning hours of August 6, the B-29 bomber known as Enola Gay dropped the equivalent of 12,500 tons of TNT over the city of Hiroshima, Japan. The destruction was both immediate and insidiously slow

as it had long reaching effects on Japanese people. 90,000 people were killed instantly. By 1950 the death toll for that first bomb reached 200,000 people

For one Medford woman, Hideko Tamura Snider, there was nothing little about the great, personal devastation the bombing wrought. She was 11 years old when the bomb hit. Her mother and cousin were killed instantly. Now in her late 70's, Snider works diligently to bring awareness of the danger of atomic weapons

Back on August 9, 1945 a second bomb, this one with the name of "Fat Man" was dropped over the city of Nagasaki, Japan. In a flash, 40,000 people were killed. By 1950 there were 140,000 more deaths as a direct result of the nuclear bomb

This was the only time in history that atomic bombs were used during wartime. Later nuclear disasters would include Three Mile Island in 1979, Chernobyl in 1986 and the meltdown of three reactors in the Fukushima Power Plant in 2011, all of which had devastating effects

Around the world people unite to remember the human cost of atomic weapons and to visualize a world without the threat of nuclear catastrophes. They come together to listen

to speakers talk about their experiences, listen to music and to learn from the past. WILPF will host a vigil in Ashland to commemorate this dark chapter of history and to draw attention to the dangers of nuclear weapons and power plants. WILPF is hosting several guests from Japan who will be participating in the events.

**July 9** (During Nuclear Abolition Week) Citizens for Peace & Justice will show the film "In my Lifetime" which tells the story of the ongoing struggle to ban nuclear weapons. The film will be shown in the Adams Room in the Medford Library at 7:00 PM. Filmed in Europe, Japan and the United States, In my Lifetime "focuses on the continuing struggle of citizens, scientists and political leaders working to reduce or eliminate the atomic threat while others search to build nuclear weapons".

The month of August has been designated "Nuclear Free Future" month. In 1982 Ashland was declared a nuclear free zone and in 1988 the city joined the International Mayors for Peace.

The opening ceremony is August 6 at 8:00 AM and will begin with the lighting of a memorial candle. The ceremony will be led by Paula Sohl, the Associate Minister of

the United Church of Christ, Congregational and will begin at the grassy entrance of Lithia Park. A moment of silence will follow, exactly 68 years after the bombing of Hiroshima.

**August 6** at 9:00 AM Nuclear maze opens in the Ashland plaza.

August 8 at 6:15 PM (approximately) the Rogue Valley Peace Choir Ensemble sings in the Ashland Plaza.

August 8 at 7:00 PM Nuclear maze is taken down.

**August 9** at 7:00 PM There will be a closing ceremony in the Japanese Garden in Lithia Park. Folks who attend the closing ceremony will be invited to float sunflowers down the stream in the Japanese Garden. Sunflowers are a symbol of the nuclear free movement.

**August 13** - Citizen's For Peace and Justice will show a film "The Atomic States of America" at the Medford Library at 7:00 PM. "In 2010, the United States announced the first new nuclear power plant construction in over 32 years. The 'Nuclear Renaissance' was born and America's long-stalled expansion of nuclear energy was infused with new life." Then on March 11, 2011,

a 9.0 magnitude earthquake hit Japan and caused an accident at the Fukushima Power Plant. This film explores the viability of nuclear power "and poses the question of whether or not man can responsibly split the atom."

Local sponsors of the vigil include Ashland WILPF, Peace House, Rogue Valley Peace Choir, Citizens for Peace & Justice, Red Earth Descendants, Rogue Valley Peace Veterans, Southern Oregon Jobs with Justice, Collateral Repair Project, Veterans for Peace Rogue Valley Chapter 156, United Nations Association of Southern Oregon, One Sunny Day Initiatives, United Nations Association of Southern Oregon, United Church of Christ Congregational of Ashland, the Social Justice Action Committee of the Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, South Mountain Friends Meeting and the Japanese Association of Southern Oregon.

"We hold these events to inform innocent populations and its devastating effects on innocent populations and the planet," said Jill Mackie, a member of WILPF. "It's so tragic... we continue with the vigil because these weapons, these dangers still exist."

Event

## Happy Hour Peace Talks

Happy Hour Peace Talk on nuclear abolition  
Monday, July 15  
5 pm - 6 pm  
Tabu Restaurant

Linda M. Richards will talk on the current global push to free the world of nuclear weapons. She is a doctoral student at Oregon State University focused on nuclear history and environmental justice. She has designed and taught original curriculum and facilitated several public history projects in these areas. In 2012 she participated in the Nonproliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee in Vienna and the Conference on Disarmament at the United Nations in Geneva. 5 to 6 p.m. at Tabu Restaurant, 76 N. Pioneer St in Ashland. Sponsored by Peace House.

Media

## Immense Possibilities

Public TV and Internet Series  
Hosted by Jeff Golden

Fridays 8:30pm on SOPTV

The public TV and Internet series Immense Possibilities has a another episode this week, celebrating an inspiring project that is energizing and strengthening our community.

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Action

## Terror Tuesdays

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Every Tuesday afternoon President Obama meets with national security advisors to select targets for assassination by weaponized drones. They set a terrible example for the rest of the world. Flood the White House phones every Tuesday morning with the demand that murder by remote control must end.

Media

## RVCP on TV !

FRIDAY, JULY 5, 6:00PM

ROGUE VALLEY TV CHANNEL 15

On July 5, 2013, we will premiere a new program that will bring together local media producers. We'll talk about the news and topics of the day with an emphasis on media. This will be a once a month production and will begin at 6:00 PM. So, don't miss it!



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# Applause and Hiss

While school safety must be a priority, it seems over the top to install panic buttons and cameras inside classrooms as the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department recently did at Shady Cove Middle School. When the panic button is activated it sets off a series of events.

“The system is activated once a teacher presses a panic button from inside their classroom. When the system is activated, command centers located in the school’s main office and within law enforcement agencies begin showing real time video from inside the classroom and various areas at the school, as well as activating control measures such as door locks and status indicators,” touts a press release from the Sheriff’s office. “We’ve seen nothing but an increase in school violence,” said Sheriff Winters.

Paid for with drug seizure money, the system was developed by a California company called Future Concepts. It was installed by Adroit Construction.

Praise to the Oregon House for passing the resolution to amend the 2010 Citizens United decision. The resolution now moves to the Senate. While supporters think this will be a tougher sell, we know that readers who reach out to their senators can have an impact on this vote.

Republican Senator Mitch McConnell was speaking at the conservative American Enterprise Institute where he was confronted with a question regarding corporate personhood. Earlier this month Senator Jon Tester introduced a constitutional amendment clarifying that corporations are not “people.” Senator McConnell called the proposed amendment absurd.

“Well you have to give them some points for not hiding it... They are uncomfortable with corporate free speech obviously. They were not uncomfortable with corporate free speech when corporations that owned newspapers or television stations were engaging in it. They only become uncomfortable with it when the Supreme Court said, why should there be a carve out for corporations that own the media outlet and for no one else? It’s an absurd proposal and it won’t go anywhere.”

It’s becoming increasingly obvious that our first responders need better training in how to deal with disabled people. In late June, Oregon State Police tasered an 11 year old, naked, autistic girl who was walking along Interstate 5 near Ashland. The female officer claims the girl was running across several lanes of traffic and was a danger to herself and others. Early media reports of the story referred to the girl as a “woman”, adding another layer of insensitivity to the tale. Her family reports that she is non-verbal and although they have taken steps to ensure her safety, she removed a screw that kept her window closed and escaped from home in the early morning hours.

Ashland’s Siskiyou Boulevard was recently equipped with audible crossing signals designed to help folks who are visually impaired. Applause to DUDE (Disabled United in Direct Empowerment) for their work in bringing this here. We understand that Rep. Peter Buckley played a good hand in seeing that ODOT completed the task as ordered. Well done!

Let’s hear it for Joyce Hailicka of Butte Falls for sharing her collection of John F. Kennedy memorabilia with our Rogue Valley community. We’ve heard nothing but good things about it and look forward to seeing it soon. The display is open to the public from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Wednesdays through Saturdays until November 22 in the Medford Center between Oz Fitness and Ashley Furniture. The display is free and open to the public. What a kindness that Hailicka is paying to rent that space and share her collection!

An estimated 50,000 dead bumblebees were discovered in a parking lot in Wilsonville, Oregon. The area is home to 65 European Linden Trees. A pesticide used to control aphids was found to be responsible for this tragedy.

The American Dream is slipping away. A report by the Brookings Institution reports that high-income kids who do not graduate from college are 2.5 times more likely to end up rich than low-income kids who do get a degree. In what outgoing Council of Economic Advisers chief Alan Krueger has dubbed the “Great Gatsby Curve” -- the more inequality there is, the less mobility there is.

Hurray for Medford’s Oregon Action for working out some recent internal issues and emerging as a stronger group. We look forward to seeing what’s ahead as Virginia Camberos takes a leading position as a full time organizer.

When a woman goes from being a teen mom to getting a Harvard education, to becoming a senator who has enough moxie to filibuster the Texas senate, she wins our praise. Wendy Davis held the nation’s attention as she fought to halt SB 5, a bill which



State senator Wendy Davis filibusters Texas Senate

would prevent all Texas abortions after 20 weeks gestation and would have closed down numerous health clinics throughout the state. Davis began her filibuster at 11:00 AM and had to speak, on topic until the session ended at midnight in order to halt the bill. Davis held the floor without drinking water, leaning, sitting down or taking a restroom break,

throughout the day and night. She was challenged three times and it looked as if she would narrowly miss the deadline when State Senator Leticia Van De Putte, who arrived late, after spending the morning at her father’s funeral, challenged Republican leaders at the podium who did not recognize one of her attempts to speak: “At what point does a female senator need to raise her voice to be heard over the male colleagues in the room?,” she asked as cheers were heard all over the country.

Republicans tried to force through a vote and the Texas Senate released a statement announcing that SB5 had passed, but it turned out that the vote was taken two minutes after the midnight deadline. SB 5 failed and women in Texas made a powerful statement about women’s health.

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HOSTED BY REGINA AYARS AND CAROL VOISIN

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# Citizen justice removes harmful GMO beets

BY GREGG MARCHESE

Reports in June of damage to GMO beet seed crops in and around Ashland saw a rapid and prominent response in main media: top story on Channel 10 news, and top front page story with a huge picture in Mail Tribune. Other outlets featured the story as well. Channel 10 interviewed Syngenta, the Swiss Biotechnology Corporation that contracts for the growing of the beet seed and Oregonians for Food and Shelter, ostensibly a food and farm advocacy group, which received significant portions of its funding from biotechnology corporations. The sentiment in the report was of Syngenta as victim, and OFS as critic and denouncer of the actions, calling it sabotage and vandalism. The Oregon Farm Bureau, also funded by Monsanto and big biotech, has issued a statement calling the acts agri-terrorism.

Other reports are coming in from tabling, social media and personal dialogues that some among the public are glad the direct actions have occurred; it's about time, no wonder.

It can be surmised that those who acted directly in the fields (as opposed to indirectly, through passive and colluding government officials influenced by rapacious corporations) felt enough distress and alarm at the GMO threat to risk their liberty in safeguarding their landscapes and lives from toxic GMO's by

removing them--something our elected officials have not had the political courage to do. Others may feel the same alarm at the presence of GMO's, but have a more cooperative, lasting and less expensive solution: a county-wide legal ban on growing GMO's.

This is an opportunity to ask the question: who is the real saboteur and agri-terrorist? GMO's displace local farmers, contaminate organic and non-GMO crops, spread deadly chemical poisons into water, air and land, and spread genetic drift with unknown but likely harmful consequences. Big biotech corporations fund political campaigns and then get legislative favors and government subsidies and tax breaks, staff government positions with their own ex-corporate employees, and buy up and hold monopolies on seed. They claim patent rights on living things, and then deny access to researchers who want the material for safety testing. They influence legislation that allows their untested products to enter the landscape and marketplace even against a court injunction that would send them back for more testing, and falsify the results of any testing that is done, pressuring and even firing and blacklisting their own scientists if they fail to report what the corporation wants to hear.

Looks like agri-terrorism to me.

While I can understand the motivations and profound concern of anyone who might have taken these actions--to protect their farms, families, food and future from the toxic harm of GMO's that legislators are failing to do--some believe they have a better means. A county ban on GMO's would achieve the same ends--removal of harmful GMO agriculture from our county--but it would be more cooperative, lasting and less expensive.

This is not a republican/democrat issue, nor a conservative/liberal issue. It is a human and world issue, and all who eat and drink and breathe and walk upon the earth have a stake in it. Only a tiny 1% really benefit from GMO's and they are having a disproportionate influence on the dialogue. Let us not readily believe those who leap to condemn direct action or citizens' justice, but let us appeal to all types of people on the human, health, fairness and local economic issues that all can find common ground to agree upon. We want gmo's gone from the lives, landscapes and livelihoods of Jackson County, and while direct action can be a desperate last resort, there is still another way: the Citizens' Initiative, ballot measure 15-119, to ban the growing of GMO crops in Jackson County.

Now, that would be some top story, front page news.

# Crop circles: divine mystery here and now

BY LEAH EV IRELAND

In this time of World War III and the invisible assault on the mind, heart, soul and individuality, governments crumble by their own weight. Even with a virtuous, brilliant leader there is no need to worry, Greed World has our futures all sewn up as worker ants and suckers. If God is a just God, we will be treated as we have treated animals, living in the worst of what we've made of the earth.

It makes one pray for an invasion from Mars. What else will unite all the peoples of the earth into awareness of their being one family, messing up the fragile beauty of our paradise lost? It is thought that our outer space cousins will visit us with ray guns and fire. What are our new worlds for except to plunder and enslave?

Odd then that we have been visited in the thousands of times - awareness beginning with their fuller flowerings in the eighties. These valentines are called Crop Circles. They are a big hello of artistic, mysterious beauty. They speak in geometric language mathematical forms, in wondrous art. Don't worry if you think them a hoax, they are fine with that.

If man could create the Circles it would mean that we are far, far more advanced than we are aware of. We are some kind of special beings able to create art only experienced fully from the sky. The art appears in seconds, "light balls" have been seen creating them, and they come in the blink of an eye. If mankind can do that, we've got it made.

We spend billions to place the call to outer space, never considering that they may be on call-holding, waiting for us to pick up the phone. Billions for laboratories are prepared for a missive from outer space. But no, they come in peace and plenty with art in nature. Like the words of the Great Masters, the happening on consciousness is fresh, new and now.

What do the Crop Circles think of abortion,

homosexuality, choice of death? Is war moral? How do the questions of the day hold up next to solar miracles? Decide for yourself.

The question is: "Why are they so nice to us?"

The second laugh on us is that the Circles cannot be owned, operated, profited by, promoted, licensed, certified, or patented. Like the ever luminous wonder of nature, you can destroy but not own. They keep popping up everywhere, primarily southern England. The Circles have a keen sense of humor and have answered questions back in design form. That's documented too.

Another great irony is that no great thinkers need intercept with what the Circles mean. No Ph.D. required. The phenomena of learning takes a new form. One is either open to wonder or not. Gathered around the new "Croppies" are a conglomeration of housewives, psychics, teachers, old people and average people. The circles are inclusive, not exclusive and simultaneously speak all languages in any culture. Most sacred, The Crop Circles are an experience between themselves and the viewer only. This is the invitation of great art. To feel the presence of mystery and beauty that is inexplicable. Not made by the human race but one that wants to be friends.

No matter how much we quantify the Circles, analyze, make cults of different beliefs, have experts, claim to know more, or attract screwballs, the Circles are what they are. Our friends in space show remarkable patience with us, maybe there is a chance to join the stars after all.

Want to find out more? There is a DVD coming out soon on Netflix called What On Earth, An inside view of Crop Circles. Older DVD's are available now.

*Leah Ev Ireland is a local writer living in Ashland). She can be reached at editor@rvcommunitypress.com.*

Event

## Human Intervention - Video and Discussion

Wednesday, July 17, 2013,  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Rogue Valley Manor

This video and the discussion to follow will explore the issues of if and when one country may militarily intervene in the affairs of another country without having received that country's invitation or even welcome. Professors John Richards and Michael Niemann from Southern Oregon University will augment the information in the video to provide more depth to the subject and will answer the questions of the attendees. The program will be at Rogue Valley Manor on Wednesday, July 17, 2013, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and concluding not later than 6:00 p.m. There will be light refreshments at the beginning of the program.



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# News

## Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement threatens public health

BY IVEND HOLEN

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is an agreement being crafted by the US and ten other Pacific Rim nations, including Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Peru, Chile, Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam, and (just recently) Japan, and with the “help” of more than 600 corporate lobbyists. While superficially similar to NAFTA, it is different in that it is being negotiated by the White House and the ten countries under unprecedented conditions requiring absolute secrecy. The US already has trade agreements covering 90 percent of the GDP of the countries involved in the talks, so the TPP is a trade agreement in name only; in actuality, it is a major effort by large corporations to usurp the power held by people and their governments, especially the power to keep health care affordable.

Of the 29 chapters in the TPP, only five are about trade, with the remainder focused on changes that multinational corporations have been unable to pass in the US Congress, including

restrictions on internet privacy, increasing patent protections, granting corporations greater access to litigation, further reducing financial regulation, and reducing people’s access to generic drugs.

All that is known about the draft provisions of the TPP is from documents that have been leaked, along with reports from NGOs and discussions at industry meetings. Unlike all other trade deals, the White House refuses to make the text available to the public. In fact, the negotiators refuse to publish the text until four years after it is signed into law. Why are they being so secretive? In a recent discussion with a Reuters reporter, former US Trade Representative Ron Kirk said he opposed making the text public because doing so would raise such opposition that it “could make the deal impossible to sign”.

### *Adverse Public Health Effects of the TPP*

Through the TPP, pharmaceutical and medical device corporations are seeking extensive patent protections using a process known as

“Evergreening”. The TPP gives 20 years of patent protection for pharmaceuticals and medical devices; however, patents can be renewed for another 20 years each time there is a change in an indication or delivery. For instance, if a drug is indicated for headaches, but then the pharmaceutical company finds that it is also helpful for stomach cramps or makes it a capsule instead of a tablet, a new patent may be issued. In reality, patents could be extended indefinitely under provisions of the TPP since under International Law free trade provisions take precedence over the internal laws of nations.

Governments and insurance companies use cost-saving drug formularies keep drug prices in check. by listing medicines approved for purchase or reimbursement, and by negotiating with drug firms to obtain the lowest prices. Among the current TPP countries, such formularies are most associated with New Zealand and Australia,

but they are also used by many governmental agencies, including in the United States. The leaked provision seeks to restrict cost-saving drug formularies. The U.S. proposal for a pharmaceutical pricing chapter restricts the use of such formularies by requiring that countries set up new administrative and judicial appeal systems to help determine whether government programs “appropriately recognize the value” of drug patents in their reimbursement proposals

Doctors Without Borders criticized these practices, stating that patent protections in previous trade agreements raised the price of life-saving medications and made them unavailable to people in poorer countries. Patents prevent the production of low cost generic forms of medications. Yet it was the availability of generic medicines to treat HIV and other infectious diseases that allowed advances to be made in decreasing their impact in developing countries. Doctors

Without Borders also expressed concern that patent protections encourage innovation based on profit instead of the needs of people, particularly those in poor nations. Corporations do not see it in their financial interest to address health conditions more prevalent in poor nations which don’t have the resources to buy their products, despite that such products and treatments can have the greatest impact on the lives of poor people.

There is one thing that is definitely clear about the impact of the TPP on health care: the intention of the TPP to protect and enhance the profits of medical and pharmaceutical corporations, and with little or no consideration of the harmful effects of such policies on overall human health. The TPP will extend pharmaceutical and medical device patents and provide other tools to keep the prices of these necessities high. This will make medications and

TPP, 14

## MRG awards \$225,000 to grassroots groups in Oregon

The McKenzie River Gathering Foundation has announced their spring grantees. MRG funds grassroots organizations across the state of Oregon and this year two southern Oregon groups are recipients of MRG funding. Since 1976 MRG has gifted \$12 million dollars in grants to progressive organizations and has been a bellwether in funding social change.

At a recent Legislative Roundup in Ashland, which was hosted by MRG, Executive Director Sharon Gary-Smith said, “we look at the world through Oregon lenses...and we find many of the organizations in this room to do the work that matters and to create the kind of Oregon you

dream of.”

Red Earth Descendants is a grassroots, indigenous-based organization committed to creating healthy, sustainable community while preserving Native values, traditions and culture. RED was awarded a \$5,000 general support grant.

Southern Oregon Jobs with Justice is building a broad movement for economic justice in Southern Oregon. They organize disenfranchised people to create a healthy community with more locally-owned businesses, sustainable economies, strong unions and responsive government. MRG awarded SOJwJ \$7,500 towards general support.

## Jackson County proposes beds for Feds

Sheriff Winters says county jail will house inmates from Federal agencies

The Jackson County jail may soon house some new inmates; federal prisoners awaiting trial and those with sentences of less than a year. The county is hoping that the move will bring in millions of dollars in revenue for the Jackson County jail.

Jackson County Administrator Danny Jordan says that negotiations between law enforcement agencies and the county are in the works. “This fulfills two functions for us,” Jordan told the Mail Tribune. “We need the additional jail space, and we need the revenue,” he said.

Jackson County Sheriff Mike Winters recently relocated administration and detective departments from the county

jail to a building on Highway 62. That move enabled the department to create a 60 bed expansion at the Jackson County Jail and this new plan will lease 55 of those beds to outside agencies. Overall the Sheriff’s office expansion will cost \$10 million dollars.

Many of the new beds will be turned over to federal agencies, and the money will help fill Jackson County coffers, Jordan said. “If you do the math, if we lease out the 55 beds, it will bring in \$2.2 million in revenue per year, which would net the county \$1.5 million in annual profits,” he said.

However, not everyone sees this as a positive solution. If 55 of the 60 new jailhouse beds are filled with outside prisoners, it

seems likely that new contracts will result in more early releases as the jail is wrought with overcrowding. Each week a number of inmates are released because of space restrictions.

Winters says that local offenders may have a chance at being booked and held. “If a federal agency is not using a bed, then we’ll place a local suspect there,” Winters said. “The added space should help with our forced releases.” However Winters believes that most of the beds reserved for other agencies will stay filled. “They are pretty busy all the time with federal inmates,” he said. “We expect those beds to be used the majority of the time. This will bring in significant revenue for this county.”

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# On the street

BY KAREN JEFFERY

Whereby our roving reporter takes timely questions to people on the street.

**T**his week I stopped folks on the street in downtown Ashland to ask: What brings you to Ashland?

**Terry Brown**  
(Talent, OR.  
Social Activist)



*We came to celebrate the Supreme Court overturning DOMA and CA Prop 8, tilting the scale towards justice and equality for all. We're also here for the Travel Store, prepping for our trip to Peru.*

**Robert Williams**  
(Portland, OR.  
Retired teacher)



*A holiday from my holiday (smile). My wife and I are traveling around Oregon but came here for the plays. Also sightseeing, shopping, golf.*

**Derek Berg** (SF NorthBay, CA.  
Skateboarder and Painter)



*We were meeting a friend in Bend. I fell asleep in the car and woke up in Ashland. We'll probably stay 2-3 days.*

**Mike Dederian**  
(Wilsonville, OR. Software engineer)



*Destination: OSF. Here for a week and have seen Taming of the Shrew, My Fair Lady, Midsummer Night's Dream...and looking forward to Robin Hood.*

**Amanda Escherman**  
(Marysville, CA. High school English teacher)



*I came up with friends for the Shakespeare Festival. We're seeing multiple plays over 3 days. Also I love the artsy Ashland community.*

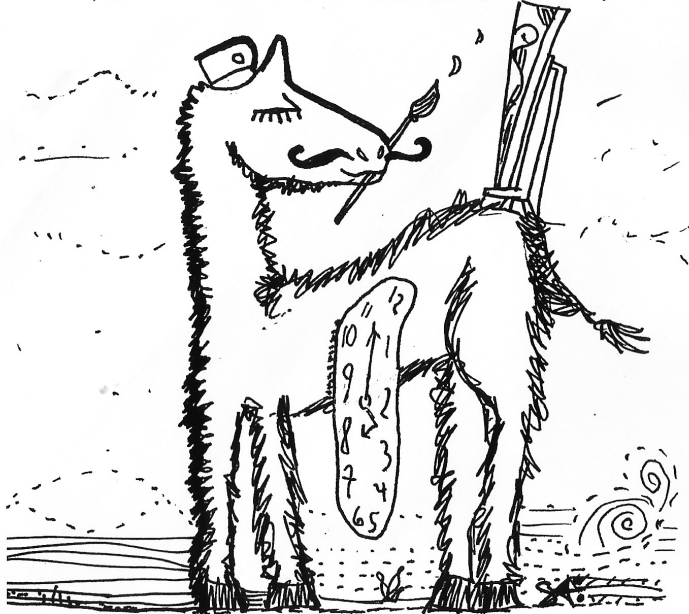
**Quinlan Canning**  
(Ashland. Master Explorer).



*I came here 11 months ago...mommy and daddy brought me. I love the ducks in Lithia Park! Ashland is my favorite town! (Translated by mommy & daddy)*

*Karen Jeffery is a freelance writer, publicist, photographer, publicist, activist, and resource unlimited. Reach her at [mauitutu@gmail.com](mailto:mauitutu@gmail.com).*

## HIS HOLINESS THE DALI LLAMA



RVCP regrets the creative (mis)spelling of the Dalai Lama in our June 2013 issue. We hope that his holiness has as much of a sense of humor about that. Feedback? Call the RVCP hotline at 541-622-9483.

**"All major religious traditions carry basically the same message, that is love, compassion and forgiveness the important thing is they should be part of our daily lives."**  
~ Dalai Lama

### Davis and Cline Gallery is Ashland's premier art gallery

located on the corner of Fourth and A Street in Ashland's historic Railroad District The Gallery has been in business since February 1998 representing world renowned artists, such as Dale Chihuly, Hiroshi Yamano and others. The leasehold space is 1750 square feet with 3 gallery spaces, an office gallery, a lighted bin storage room and bathroom. The gallery spaces have hardwood floors, low voltage gallery lighting with dimmers and complete equipment and supplies and a extensive client list. Davis and Cline has an excellent reputation, great location and consistent profits for 13 years including the last five during the recession. Training is available and sale includes computers and gallery software.



**Davis & Cline Gallery - Ashland**  
**\$145,000**

### Comfortable, Classy, Conscious, and Close to town.

This green sanctuary is private w/out being remote & provides inspiring sunset and Mt. Ashland views. The enchanting home has passive solar & is straw bale & wood frame construction; the great room & master bedroom have 15 ft. ceilings; metal roof, no off gassing carpets, no toxic emissions from any building materials. This rolling, lush parcel is 1.83 acres, fully gravity flow irrigated & is flag lot set back from the road & power lines, established ornamental gardens, six fruit trees & loads of blackberries. For heating there are two propane stoves on thermostats & it was designed to take advantage of passive solar in winter months, natural convection and super insulation eliminate the need for AC in the summer. Gourmet custom kitchen features professional 6 burner propane stove, custom range hood with high powered vent fan, Liebherr refrigerator, Asko dishwasher, Paperstone counters & soapstone farm sink. Hot tub & in-law unit.



**599 Wilson Rd. - Ashland**  
**\$525,000**



**Hong Kong Bar & Restaurant**  
**\$89,500**

### Ashland icon for sale.

Hong Kong Bar & Restaurant, located on the busy plaza. Seller is highly motivated, this is a turn key operation, to be sold in :as is: condition. Newly finished floors, fresh paint throughout, no Blue Sky, no books, selling leasehold improvements & equipment. Concession on price for Cash and a quick close.



**345 Liberty St. - Ashland**  
**\$349,000**

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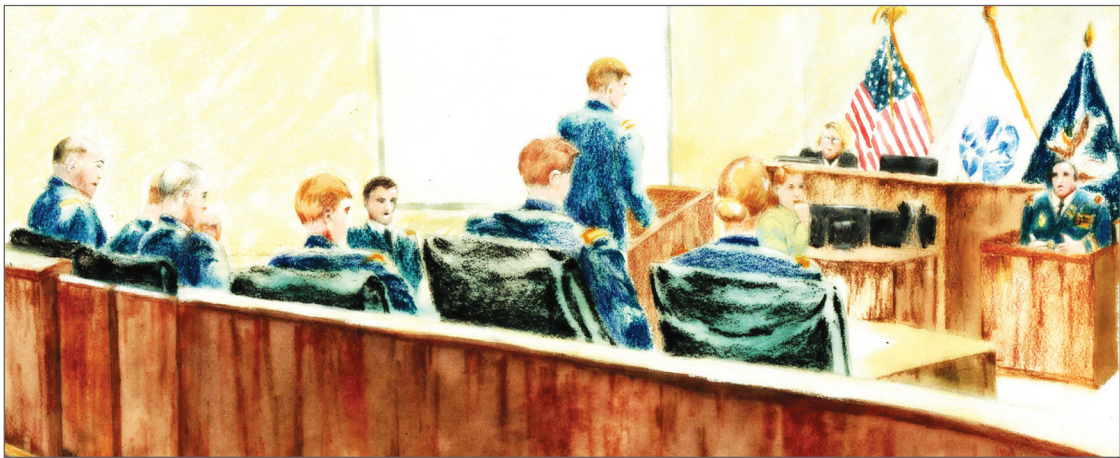


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Bradley Manning on Trial

Illustration by Debra Van Poolen

# Bradley Manning trial update

BY JASON HOUK

The military trial of Army Private First Class Bradley Manning continues at Fort Meade in Maryland. Manning stands accused of violating the Espionage Act and aiding the enemy for his actions by releasing a trove of classified files to the anti-secrecy website Wikileaks. Manning has admitted to leaking classified documents and videos, but denies the charges of theft and aiding the enemy, saying that he leaked the information in order to bring attention to military war crimes and spark a debate about U.S. foreign policy.

Manning was responsible for the 2010 release of the video “Collateral Murder” that documents American forces opening fire on unarmed civilians and reporters. The video includes an audio recording of the commentary by American soldiers before, during and after the attack. The soldiers repeatedly request and are granted permission to open fire, encourage one another and joke about the dead and dying civilians.

## “To Bradley”

BY DEB VAN POOLEN

*the first six days of your court martial  
you hear every word spoken  
while you sit there silent  
on the edge of your seat  
back straight  
at attention  
for Col. Denise Lind  
you spring to your feet  
always the first to rise  
sometimes you  
approve transcripts  
responding to the judge,  
“Yes, your honor.”  
but ninety-nine  
percent of the time  
your voice is not heard  
as others examine  
the clicks of your fingers  
you take notes  
rotate the pen in your hand  
on breaks  
you talk with your neighbors  
sometimes you smile  
even snicker  
most of the time  
you wait  
you have waited 1107 days  
we wait with you bradley  
we are your neighbors  
we are you  
we are all bradley manning*

Dozens of supporters of Manning are attending the hearings and holding vigil outside the Fort Meade gates.

According to organizers for the Bradley Manning Support Network, the group has tens of thousands of supporters worldwide who have donated more than \$1.1 million to Manning’s defense fund.

Artist and activist Debra Van Poolen has been following the

trial in Maryland. “As I follow this case of Bradley Manning vs. the US, attending each day of the court martial that the public is welcome, I continue to be inspired. I am fascinated, intrigued, and motivated by the people who are risking so much of their personal security to act on behalf of people who are not heard, speaking out in truth, with compassion, justice, and dignity.”

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## Ashland History & Railroad Museum Presents

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# Report from Istanbul    Refugee family faces eviction

BY BRYAN NANCE

Ever since I’ve lived in Turkey, I always felt that there was a slight heaviness to the people here (whatever that means). Before today, I never could figure out where that feeling came from, but now I know. As I walked through Gezi Park today, where all the protests started, I realized that the feeling of heaviness had completely disappeared.

The protesters have transformed the park into one of the most unique places in the world. Children are painting together, some are playing music, others are planting flower gardens, some drawing or doing communal art, some are doing yoga, reading books, making new friends, and everyone is helping out with something. People have set up booths giving away free food; there are doctors, lawyers, a library, even a vet there to give their services for free. Others are cleaning; some providing electricity, and a company even brought in portable toilets. Many of the businesses are still open; some providing services to the people for free. Other than a few groups using this opportunity to promote their causes, and

the many signs of the fight the people had to endure to take back the park, for the most part it is everyday people, doing everyday things. Except that heaviness is gone. Why? Because everyone is happy, everyone is hopeful. There is no worry, no one needs anything, but everyone wants to give something. People are sharing not only their things, but they are sharing themselves. In a world where people are consumed by technology, their jobs, and buying things, this is just remarkable.

Never in my life have I experienced a community like this, and after seeing the passion and determination of the Turkish people, it doesn’t look like this is going to go away. Of course there is always the threat of another attack by the police, but after seeing what I saw today, I don’t think the police have a chance. Once you feel the energy in Gezi Park, there is no amount of tear gas that can take that away. Although this is far from over, I think this may be what Turkey needed to remove that weight upon their shoulders. And I am proud to be a part of them!

## A dark night

BY AVITAL LIVNY (Turkey)

I cried quietly on the boat home from Taksim tonight. Something in me felt broken. Call me naive if you’d like, but I’m not sure I believed something like this existed before tonight, before I saw it for myself; violence in the face of non-violence. The absence of a public space to express our collective yet peaceful discontent. The disrespect one human can show another when they refuse to recognize that they are, in essence, equals.

I am struggling tonight to hold onto the beauty and signs of collective strength I have witnessed during these past weeks - the solidarities formed in Gezi Park, on the streets of Istanbul, and all across social media platforms. I still want to

believe in the basic goodness of humanity. but something in me broke tonight. and so i know this night will be a dark one in my personal history; and I worry that it will be a dark night in Turkey’s history as well.

Non-Turkish and non-Turkish-speaking friends: if you haven’t already done so, please take the time to educate yourselves about the situation here. Take the time to contact your local consulates and elected representatives to demand that somebody be held accountable for this unwarranted violence. Demand that there be public spaces in which people can come together to peacefully protest. Demand that human rights - nay, human decency - be respected. We need your help.

BY VANESSA HOUK

Collateral Repair Project works to provide basic goods for Iraqi and Syrian refugees. Sasha Crow wrote, “Yesterday we received a call from a mama who is in the hospital, getting treatment for her leukemia. She will be hospitalized for at least another week. We have not yet talked to the doctor but we have heard her prognosis is grim. While she’s hospitalized, the kids are alone, under the care of the eldest, a responsible 13 yr old girl. She has two younger brothers, ages 7 and 11. An upstairs neighbor is there, on call, if they need help.

Mom called us to tell us her children have no food and lack other things. We found the family only had a few food items, nothing to “make a meal” and they only

have three sleeping mats for the 4 in the home - all thin, lumpy second-hand mats. The landlord had loaned them a single-burner stove but he had come earlier in the day to take it back from them, leaving them with no way to cook.

We also found out that even though mom had paid two months rent in advance when they arrived just under two months ago, the landlord is throwing them out. They must be out by July 3 - noon. We suppose he wants the flat for relatives or friends - or possibly to rent for higher amount to Syrian refugees. Many landlords are taking advantage of the huge number of Syrians now seeking shelter to overcharge on flats. This flat is at least double the rent it would

usually be now - 140JD. Before, a flat in this condition would be 60-75JD.

So we need to find a new flat for this family since the children cannot do this and mom, even if she is released from the hospital, cannot do this themselves. We have no funds now to pay rent but will approach other aid organizations to see if they can help.”

Through the magic of the Internet and with the help of some kind donors on Facebook, CRP was able to provide food, help getting into a new apartment and some basic furniture. There are many more families who have been hurt by wars and will seek assistance from CRP. To donate, please visit <http://www.collateralrepairproject.org/donate>

## Power

CONTINUED FROM 2

power the entire city. However, the Ashland police department has solar electric panels on top of its roof, so we know it works. This is a step in the right direction.

One common objection to wind and solar is that it needs to provide an all-or-nothing solution. It need not do so all at once. The objective should be to reduce the city’s dependency on private utility companies. This can be achieved gradually and incrementally by addressing different market segments and applications, such as home, office, commercial, farm, and industrial. The all-or-nothing objection serves the utility companies, not the city, and not Ashland residents, especially not in the long run. Utility companies would rather shut off someone’s electricity than provide life-sustaining heat in the winter for someone who can’t pay their utility bill. For a city to engage in this practice is to engage in economic homicide and it should be against the law. This is just fine with some people, however.

Another common misconception is the claim that “if it made sense, we’d already

be doing it.” This amounts to political apathy and intellectual laziness, but it is most often also a symptom of authoritarianism and elitism. This objection supports the status quo and the profit-making of utility companies. It assumes that “the invisible hand of capitalism” provides us with the best solutions. It perpetuates a public dependency on private utility companies whose primary concern is profit, not the public welfare. When public officials become beholden to this dependency, they are in lockstep with the utility companies and their mad obsession to make a profit at public expense, counterproductive to the public interest. Business interests are often contrary to public interests, not in line with them.

Authorities don’t always know all the answers. The technology of wind and solar power is changing and people are always finding new ways of doing things cheaper and more efficiently. That is the true spirit of innovation and free enterprise. Anyone interested in finding a better way should be able to come up with a new idea, rather than rely on industry or public officials to do it.

Nothing prevents Ashland from offering a rebate to residential customers for using electric solar panels like the

ones on top of the roof of the Ashland police department, and a municipal revenue bond could pay for this. The Jackson County Fuel Committee, and many Ashland residents appreciate the way Ashland City Council Member Carol Voisin has fought to oppose public utility rate increases and shut-offs of electric utilities on the poor and the elderly.

On a final note, it behooves us all to be conscious of the fact that electricity is a limited commodity. Instead of implementing what amounts to a regressive tax that weighs more heavily against the poor than the rich by increasing electricity rates across the board, the city can promote conservation of electricity and simultaneously implement a rate increase that charges progressively higher rates to people who use more electricity per household and provide incentives to homeowners to use solar heating, along with rebates. As new products emerge, manufacturing standards and building codes need to be updated to ensure the safety of their use. These or similar efforts could all be part of a comprehensive plan that encompasses both immediate needs and short-term and long-term planning.

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# One last, long chapter

BY VANESSA HOUK

While he was kind of hoping to live to see one hundred, it seems that the end might be near. At 97, it's been a pretty incredible life, a life well lived. On each of our last several visits he pulled me aside and showed me a line of books on the bookshelves in the living room. "I wrote these books," he said proudly. Dwight Bennett Newton authored more than 70 westerns, a musical about the life of Jesse James, 45 Hollywood screenplays in the late 1950's (Wagon Train and Death Valley Days) and 175 short stories, many of which were printed in the pulp magazines of the 1950's. Dwight wrote under several aliases including D.B. Newton, Clement Hardin, Ford Logan, Hank Mitchum, and Dan Temple. A fine life, indeed.

Even still, he'd tell you that his best creations were his two daughters, Jennifer and Janet. Once, after watching his grandson, Jason roughhouse with

our oldest daughter, he confided that while he wasn't the type of dad who got down on the floor to play, he was impressed by Jason's hands on approach to parenting. His family would tell you that he was quick to pay attention and that his calm presence centers each of them to this day.

With all that Dwight accomplished, nothing was more valued than his marriage and friendship with Mary Jane (Kregel), a marriage which has spanned more than seventy two years. A few winters ago she wrote that their "lives were full of music to listen to and interesting books to read and what more could anyone want?" Often when we visited I would see her reach for his hand and as they held each other I'd hear her ask, "How are you doing Dwight?" and in their presence I would think, "this is the stuff that real love stories are made of." There is a keen sense of kindness between them.

And his memory! He used to tell me the most incredible

things, once even recollecting the title of his elementary school primer as though that was an ordinary thing. On nights when we visited, we'd get him to reminisce and he told us how the Army brought them out west to Bend. They lived in a little house near what would become the downtown and eventually bought the house next door, the home they've lived in all these years and where, if he has his way, he will take his last breath. His office where he wrote most of his books is still there in the back and as he noted in the introduction of one of his last books, Born to the Brand, "I sometimes have an eerie feeling that the millions of words I've pounded out, here in this little room are somehow embedded in the walls and ceiling and at any moment could start sifting quietly and insidiously around me."

He played a hand in forming the Western Writers of America (WWA) and is its last surviving founder. WWA works to promote literature of the American West.

Over the years Dwight and Mary Jane filled the little white house with music. He loved to sit at the piano and practice tunes. He was good too, often playing for friends and family and up until not that many years ago, "playing for the old folks", as he said at a nearby retirement center.

I owe a lot to this man, in fact he was largely responsible for teaching his grandsons (one of whom is my husband, Jason) how to be good men. He is, for many of us, a compass and our touchstone. It's hard to imagine a life without him in it, even as he's giving us this one final lesson in letting go. Somehow I'd like to think that in these last days even as he sleeps, he is surrounded by all of the characters he dreamt up over the years. I imagine he's hearing some of his old tunes too.

Over the years he gave me powerful advice on writing and taught me how he learned point of view. He told me that as he was growing up in Kansas City, Missouri, he was a voracious reader. He began studying L. Frank Baum's Oz books and as he read through each book he would try to figure out how the story might unfold in the eyes of each subsequent character. Understanding that the lion's experience was different from that of the scarecrows, for example, taught him what he needed to know in order to tell many of his own tales and as a young writer myself, while I took that advice in, he made an even deeper impression that changed how I began to view the lives of the people around me and became my own standard. Outlined by his words and actions, he taught me how to be kinder and more empathetic towards others which is something that will go on even as this last chapter is coming to its end.

## NSA

CONTINUED FROM 1

and did not address the type of ongoing, broad surveillance of phone records the government is now conducting."

They suggest that by tracking location data, the government is "turning Americans' cellphones into tracking devices."


The Senators hope that by providing specific questions, they can clear up misleading statements and allow the public to adequately evaluate the process.

- 1) How long has the NSA used PATRIOT Act authorities to engage in bulk collection of Americans' records? Was this collection underway when the law was reauthorized in 2006?
- 2) Has the NSA used USA PATRIOT Act authorities to conduct bulk collection of any other types of records pertaining to Americans, beyond phone records?

- 3) Has the NSA collected or made any plans to collect Americans' cell-site location data in bulk?
- 4) Have there been any violations of the court orders permitting this bulk collection, or of the rules governing access to these records? If so, please describe these violations.
- 5) Please identify any specific examples of instances in which intelligence gained by reviewing phone records obtained through Section 215 bulk collection proved useful in thwarting a particular terrorist plot.
- 6) Please provide specific examples of instances in which useful intelligence was gained by reviewing phone records that could not have been obtained without the bulk collection authority, if such examples exist.
- 7) Please describe the employment status of all persons with conceivable access to this data, including IT professionals, and detail whether they are federal employees, civilian or military, or contractors.

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# Remembering early Oregon civil rights advocate John Beeson

BY VANESSA HOUK

It's the sort of place where the wind whispers secrets and birds come to rest in the trees before a long flight. It's a place where lives are put to rest, but stories lay waiting to be re-told. It's a place where elderly Pacific Madrones and mature Pines lean in together as if they are comfortable neighbors. The Stearns Cemetery in Talent is a place where several notable southern Oregon pioneers are buried, including John Beeson who is remembered as southern Oregon's first civil rights advocate.

Beeson hailed from England and emigrated to the United States in 1832 where he became an Illinois farmer. At a time when slavery divided hearts and minds, Beeson quietly took a stand and his farm became a station for the Underground Railroad. By the early 1850's he was ready for new adventures and in 1853 he took his family west to Oregon and became a southern Oregon pioneer.

The mid 1850's were rife with conflict between those pioneering settlers and the Native People whose lands were occupied in the name of progress. As popular opinion grew heavy with the desire for war against the Indians, Beeson became a consistent vocal advocate for peace.

In a letter to the New York Tribune, Beeson wrote, "I belong to the small minority in Oregon who believe with General Wools and Palmer, that the late war was unnecessary and cruel in the extreme, and that all the burning of property, the destruction of life and expenditure of public

treasure would have been saved if the civil authorities had administered equal justice instead of calling people to arms," he said.

"I have lived since the fall of 1853 in Rogue River Valley, Southern Oregon, situated between the headwaters of the Sacramento and the Willamette Valleys and have had an opportunity of knowing much of the Indian tribes, both on the plains as well as on the Pacific Coast. Notwithstanding the heart rendering statements of savage barbarity which the Oregon papers have constantly spread before the public, it is a fact that there are more murdered Indians than Indian murders; and when the whole truth is known, I believe it will appear that Indians are less savage then some who appear to be civilized."

His defense of native people was met with threat of physical harm and in May of 1856, Beeson was chased out of Oregon. He spent almost a decade traveling the East Coast giving lectures about Native American rights and in 1857 he authored, A Plea for the Indians which pointed out the discrepancies between the Government's treaties and the actions of their parties.

In A Plea for the Indians he wrote, "It has already been brought before the public; but as it illustrates how difficulties generally occur between the races, and, at the same time, how easily they might be avoided, if our people, especially Government Agents, were more fully imbued with the spirit of justice and magnanimity, I will, in this connection, repeat the

account. A company of emigrants having a sick cow, which was unable to travel further, abandoned the poor animal, and left her by the way-side. The Indians, seeing she was given up, killed her for their own use. The emigrants, hearing of this, reported at Fort Laramie that the Indians had stolen and killed some of their cattle, upon which, an officer, with a detachment of thirty men, was sent to demand the thief. The Indians knowing- the certainty and severity of impending punishment, for there was the hide, and even the beef, in visible possession refused, or hesitated to give up any of their number as the criminal ; for they well knew that nothing which they could plead would have the least weight with their accusers. The military order was peremptorily insisted on; and to enforce obedience, a volley was fired over their camp; and, either by design or accident, the chief fell dead in their midst. Nothing was more natural than that the Indians should, in their turn, attack the assailants. Every principle of right or honor recognized among them demanded this; and twenty-eight of the white men fell dead beneath the force of their justly-excited resentment."

Beeson went on to describe what happened next. "In consequence of this the Indians were charged with massacre, as well as robbery. "War was declared, or supposed to exist; and the following year hundreds of thousands were expended in a campaign against them, although they had, in the interim, done all



John Beeson (Photo via Southern Oregon Historical Society)

they could to express their desire for peace and friendship. General Harney, with a glittering array of armed men; both horse and foot, marched on to the Plains, and were met by the Chief, who nobly came forward in advance, and plead with the officer for peace and justice, in behalf of his people."

Bodies turn to bones and dust, but words live on.

Beeson returned to Oregon where he was reunited with his wife, Ann who is buried next to him and their son, Welborn.

*His grave reads,  
John Beeson  
Born in England Sept. 15, 1803  
Died Apr. 21, 1889  
A Pioneer and man of Peace*

Directions from Highway 99  
From Highway 99, turn onto Rapp Road. Go over the train tracks and at the stop sign, go straight. You are now on Wagner Creek Road. Stay on Wagner Creek Road until you come to Anderson Creek Road. Turn right. Just past Allen Lane, the cemetery is on the left.

*This article was reprinted from the July 2012 edition of the Ashland Free Press*

## Circus

BY VANESSA HOUK


If you look towards the blue hills above Ashland on a hot summer day you might see the ghosts of forty elephants folding themselves out of the stratum, marching toward the middle of town.

In the late 1800's the elephants came stuffed in rail cars. This time they lumber towards the plaza by choice.

After all it's a circus of poetry and we're all oddballs, sword swallowers, bearded ladies, and three headed monkeys who double dutch skipping rope.

When the calliope begins the elephants roar.

*The Ashland Painters Union is calling for submissions for an August show with the theme of circus. The deadline for submissions is July 12. Email Amy at ashlandpaintersunion@gmail.com for more information.*



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# 9 fun things to do with kids in southern Oregon

BY VANESSA HOUK

If, by early July, you find yourself humming the theme song from Bye Bye Birdie “Kids, what’s the matter with kids today...” it might be a sign that the newness of summer is starting to wear thin. At Chez Houk we like to stay one step ahead of this by keeping kid friendly things on the agenda so that everyone in the family has something to look forward to. Southern Oregon boasts an abundance of free and low-cost, family friendly adventures and while this list is by no means extensive, it includes some of our families favorites.

**Sanctuary One**

Madison visited Sanctuary One for a middle school field trip and came home bubbling with compliments. “You should have seen it Mom, there were goats and dogs and a cat that followed me around. It was the best-day-ever.” This care farm exists to connect people and animals together for mutual healing and is a refuge for rescued animals. Call 541.899.8627 or email info@SanctuaryOne.org.

**Times:** 90 minute tours are offered Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:30 AM.

**Location:** Sanctuary One at Double Oak Farm 13195 Upper Applegate Jacksonville

Cost: The farm asks for a minimum donation of \$10 per person.

**Lithia Park troll bridges**

What, you’ve never heard that there are trolls in Lithia Park? Well, isn’t it lucky that you are reading this. If you stomp your foot three times before you approach any of the foot-bridges inside the park, you’ll be able to cross the bridges safely and if you peek down towards the

direction of where the creek and bridge unite, you just might see the quick blur of a fast troll. They are friendly creatures who live exclusively in Lithia Park with hair the color of the trunk of the Tree of Heaven and a laugh that often echoes through the downtown. Don’t believe me? Ask any four year old...

**Location:** 59 Winburn Way, Ashland

**Cost:** Free

**Here be dragons**

It goes without saying that in a community as vibrant and as artistically rich as Ashland, one can find dragons. Take the kids for a downtown adventure and as you wander through shops (Unicorn, Paddington Station and Tree House Books are three easy suggestions) see how many dragons you can find. Visit the kids section of the Ashland library and finish off your adventure in the throne underneath the mural which is a great spot for reading. How many dragons can you silently find inside the library? End your dragon hunt with a story. The Ashland library has a number of entertaining books such as “No Dragons for Tea: Fire Safety for Kids (and Dragons)” as well as many others. Before you leave the library be sure to join the “Dig into Reading” summer reading program which offers incentives for kids when they read or listen to ten books. All that and you can’t beat the price, which is free!

**Location:** Downtown shops and the Ashland Library is located at 410 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland.

**Railroad Park**

One of the lesser used parks in Ashland, Railroad Park features play structures, swings and a slide, basketball court, bike

trail and a shaded picnic area with tables. Located just down the street from the Ashland Historic Railroad Museum on A Street, this quiet little park has a friendly atmosphere and is a fun place to unwind on a hot day.

**Location:** A Street between 6th and 8th Street, Ashland

**Cost:** Free

**Bat walk**

You might think of them as creepy, but bats help us keep insect populations down and they are fascinating creatures. Did you know that there are 15 species of bats in Oregon. They can cover a radius of 100 miles in just one night. Walk through the Historic Railroad District in Ashland at twilight and look up at the streetlights to catch a show. Bats move quickly (up to 30 miles an hour). Biologists worry that White-noise Syndrome, which is caused by a type of fungus and has killed millions of bats since it was first discovered in 2006, will continue to decrease bat colonies. Conservation efforts aimed at protecting habitat and further research will ensure that your children’s children can go on bat walks too.

**Cost:** Free

**Bowling**

Bowling is always good for some laughs, especially if you haven’t played in a long time. Our local bowling alleys offer inexpensive entertainment in an air conditioned setting.

**Lava Lanes** offers \$1 days on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer. Games are \$1 each. 2980 Crater Lake Highway, Medford.

**Roxy Ann Lanes** is located at 2375 South Pacific Highway in Phoenix, Oregon.

Dollar days are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Games are \$1 each, shoe rental is \$1 and \$1 snacks include hot dogs and fries.

**Ashland History & Railroad Museum**

Did you know that there is a history and railroad museum right here in the Rogue Valley? Transport back in time when railcars traveled through Ashland and find out what locals thought of the railway. From circuses to presidents, trains brought in a wealth of experiences and knowledge and you’ll find many exciting things on display at the museum.

The current exhibit is “Ashland, What’s in a Name?” includes Native American artifacts which were found on the plaza remodel archaeological dig that prove that the Plaza was once the center of a Native American village. You can see one of two existing Ashland Flour Mill bags from the early Ashland Flour

Mill and a bunch of artifacts from very early Ashland. This exhibit will be held until the last week of August and then they will install the Fall exhibit, “Faces of the Railroad: The People Behind the Engines.”

Victoria Law, director says, “one of every child’s favorite thing to do at our Museum is we allow children to drive our model railroad with supervision. Not too many museums allow kids this kind of hands-on

**Cost:** \$3 for adults, \$2 seniors and \$1 for kids.

**Garfield Water Park**

A good place to cool off on a hot day is the water play feature at Garfield Park. Metal poles of varying heights shoot out streams of cold water and kids of all ages find it to be a fun respite from the heat. The splash park is free and other amenities include a playground, volleyball court, basketball and picnic areas.

**Location:** East Main Street between Garfield and California. **43rd Annual Children’s Festival**

The Storytelling Guild of Jackson County offers a magical three day Children’s Festival July 13-15 at the Britt Festival Grounds in Jacksonville. This is the 47th annual festival and it features a wealth of creative outlets from pottery making to wood working (are you ready for some noise?), arts and crafts, science and storytelling. Stop in at the Dragon Deli for a low cost snack and afterwards the kids can “feed” the dragons any leftover rubbish. There are planned performances on the stage which includes dancers, musicians and more.

**Location:** Britt Festival, Jacksonville

**Cost:** \$3 per person

When: July 13 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM

July 14 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM

July 15 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM

**What’s your favorite low-cost thing to do with kids? Send your ideas to editor@rvcommunitypress.com and we’ll feature the best reader responses in our August issue.**



**Children’s Festival 2013**  
**July 13, 14 and 15th**  
**Jacksonville**

experience. Our trains are all state-of-the-art ‘N-scale’ trains donated from local manufacturer, “Micro-Trains”, based in Talent.” The museum has an annual “Tombstone Tales” event which is also suitable for families. Law says, “Tombstone Tales is our summer community outreach program and is a great fun way to learn about Ashland history and is great for families. The dates of our performances are June 29, June 30, July 6 & July 7 from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM at the old Ashland Cemetery on the corner of East Main and Morton Street. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and can be purchased at the Museum or at the gate.”

**Location:** 258 A Street Suite 11, Ashland (Upstairs) 541-261-6605.

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Ashland

CONTINUED FROM 1

would have more luck selling goods to miners than panning for gold. Thus they became retailers, merchants, carpenters and millers as well as farmers and orchardists. In Ashland’s lush and rich landscape they saw not only the beauty of the rushing Ashland Creek but the power. Power that could provide the energy to run sawmills, flour mills and finally a woolen mill

Many of these early settlers came from either Ashland, Ohio or Ashland, Kentucky. Most of the men were Whigs, an early political party that favored “internal improvements” and education. Many of the men were fans of Senator Henry Clay, known as “the Great Compromiser” whose estate in Kentucky was named “Ashland.” Straws were drawn and the Ashland, Ohio men won the contest. Ashland Mills, the new town, would be named for Ashland, Ohio.

Over time the “Mills” would be dropped from the town name and become simply, “Ashland.”

By that time in 1871, much of the character of what Ashland would be had already been established. Early pioneer, Abel Helman, had subdivided his donation land claim centered on the Ashland Flour Mill and helped create a fledgling, business district that came to be known as the “Plaza.” The progressive values of the early Ashland pioneers inspired them to create schools and the first “Normal School”, or teacher’s college, in Southern Oregon

Progressive values continued to attract new businesses and innovative thinkers, like a young drama teacher named Angus Bowmer who helped create the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in the middle of the Great Depression. In the twenty-first century, Ashland holds to its early progressive values and with good stewardship of the land remains the beautiful mountain town, surrounded by glorious nature, that continues to attract the progressive and the innovative.

Victoria Law is the Executive Director of the Ashland History and Railroad Museum.

TPP

CONTINUED FROM 7

treatments unaffordable for millions of people and raise the costs of governmental health programs. In fact, the TPP goes farther than previous agreements by also requiring that surgical techniques, medical tests and treatments be patented. This will restrict the availability of these treatments, especially in health systems that have limited resources. Patents keep prices high by restricting the availability of drugs, devices and services to those who have wealth.

**The Dracula Strategy**

Besides a stake to the heart, what’s the best way to kill a blood-sucking vampire? Exposing it to the light of day. Organizers have repeatedly stopped secretive trade negotiations over the years by dragging them out of the shadows and into public scrutiny:

- 1998: The Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI)
- 1999: The “Millennial Round” of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- 2003: The Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)

“The Threat of the TPP to Public Health - Part 2” - will delve deeper into the dracula strategy with the August issue of the RVCP. The Oregon Fair Trade Campaign (OFTC), is working with the nationwide Citizens Trade Org., [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org) in an effort to defeat the TPP.

ORFTC works in coalition with labor, environmental and human rights organizations across the state to fight for fair trade policies. If you would like your organization to join in the effort to defeat the TPP we’d be happy to do a presentation to your board or steering committee. Contact Ivend Holen at [idholen@ccountry.net](mailto:idholen@ccountry.net) or (541) 779-5392.

Unsolved

CONTINUED FROM 1

many transients call home and the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office makes semi-annual sweeps and had just roused campers a few weeks before the murders. Carney might have pitched camp near the Pilot Truck Stop, expecting to catch some quick work and a ride back East, but he never got that chance. Sometime between when he was last seen and on the afternoon of September 4, when a passerby found his body inside his sleeping bag, a killer walked the greenway path. There was no sign of a struggle as Carney was shot in his head while sleeping. Other campers nearby must have heard that shot echo through the darkness of the evening. While investigators have talked to people who were in the area, they have not been able to root out answers.

The killer did not rob Carney and police have been unable to identify a clear motive for his killing. “Troy was not a drug user,” his mother said. Autopsy results did not find any trace of drugs or alcohol in his system at the time of his death.

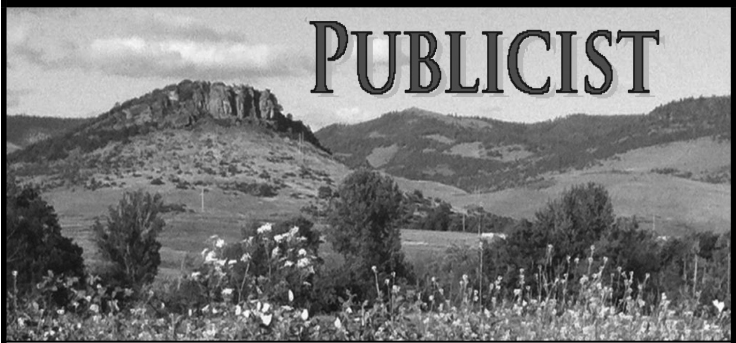
Then in the early morning of September 14, someone set fire to the crime scene and a flames ravaged the area. The rough terrain and wildness of the Greenway prevented firefighters from being able to arrive quickly at the scene. The arsonist was never found.

In 2010, the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department released a statement which says that “through the course of the investigation, an evidentiary link between the two homicides was discovered.” They have not released any information and

there is no new information available on either case.

In June 2012, “Fishhook Dave’s” memorial stone was placed against the edge of the bike path along the Greenway and Mountain View Cemetery in Ashland. Standing next to it, one notices the growing birch tree nearby and a spectacular view of the rolling hills off in the distance. The face of a wolf and an eagle’s feather envelopes the words “Beloved son, brother, father, and friend David Edwin Lewis, Aged 46, Born December 23 Wilmington Delaware, Killed September 4, 2008 Dead Indian Road, Ashland Oregon. The most loving man on the mountain. He said it the way it was and it was the way he said.” There is an uneasiness there at the edge of the cemetery where the red winged blackbirds come to rest on the top of the fence, on what should be a sacred and peaceful place, as the community still waits for answers.

What do you know about Troy Carney and/or Dave Lewis’ murders? Rewards are being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person/ person’s involved in their murders.Troy Carney’s family is offering a \$2,500 reward and Dave Lewis’ family has a \$20,000 reward for anyone who can provide information leading to an arrest. While the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department is the lead on these cases, ANY law enforcement officer can take your report, from ANY jurisdiction. The Jackson County Sheriff’s telephone number is 541-774-6800. The Ashland Police Department’s telephone number is 541-488-2211 and their anonymous tip line is 541-552-2333.



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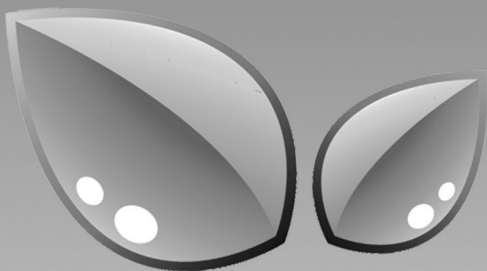
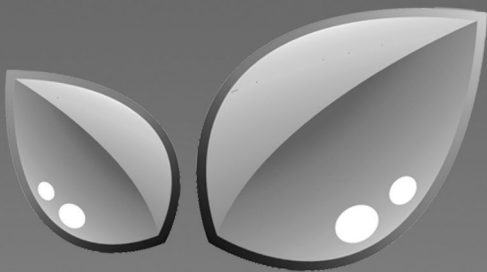
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Smart Move

You can stop checking your digital calendars: The cheapest, tiniest electric car on sale is here in the Rogue Valley.

The new ForTwo ED promises real-world performance -- and at \$25,000 before tax credits, the best price among all new electric cars. When equipped with a soft top, this short two-seater can also claim title as the only electric convertible on the market.

The smart car turned heads when it first appeared on U.S. roads in 2007, but the electric smart car has the ambitious aim of completely revolutionizing driving. The smart car has grown a lot since starting out as the brainchild of watchmaker Swatch and is produced by a division of Daimler. Notoriously small, the car has always been aimed at the young, trendy end of the auto market and the smart electric car will also target the green segment of the marketplace.

Bob Crow, General Manager and Owner of smart Center of Medford, said he's been "amazed at the interest in the smart car in general, with the regular gasoline- powered model leasing for only \$99 month, but the excitement over the new electric drive smart that gets an EPA-estimated 122MPGe, is nearly overwhelming."

The electric smart car gives out zero emissions and runs silently just like all other electric cars. However, the zero emissions figure doesn't take into account the extra carbon dioxide necessary to create the electricity to charge the vehicle even though this is still lower than emissions from gasoline. Because it uses an electric motor, there is no engine and no engine oil which saves on maintenance and waste.

"We're not going to sell these for \$40,000," he said, referring to the approximate price of the early prototype cars and competitors. The smart ED starts at \$25,000 before tax credits, or lease with Battery Assurance PlusSM starting at \$199 for 36 months.\*

The way the smart electric drive plugs in is just one of the unique features of the car. "Just a regular 110 volt outlet will charge it," Bob Crow explained, "Most other electric vehicles are higher priced and you need to add a special charging station to the home, with the smart car like I said, just plug it in."

"For running around town," Bob Crow went on, "finding parking in some of the local area's like downtown Ashland and Medford, the ForTwo ED is one of the best choices a driver can make."

To find out more about the all new electric Bob Crow invites you to come on down to smart center of Medford and take a look.



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